Postal Finance Marts (PFMs) will provide financial services/products like Post Office Savings Bank Schemes, Postal Life Insurance, International Money Transfer, Mutual Funds and Bonds, Dated Government Securities, Non Life Insurance Products, Pension Schemes etc. to the customers.

(c) The scheme will be implemented in the Tenth Five Year Plan.

Expansion and upgradation of telecom services in Himachal Pradesh and Orissa

†917. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of work carried out in rural and urban areas of Himachal Pradesh and Orissa for the development, expansion and upgradation of telecommunication facilities during the last three years;

(b) whether the above work are going at slow pace in rural areas;

(c) if so, the Government's response thereon and the steps taken in this regard; and

(d) the extent of success achieved after taking such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The details of work carried out in rural and urban areas of Himachal Pradesh and Orissa for the development, expansion and upgradation of telecommunication facilities during the last three years is given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) For faster development of network in the rural areas, following steps are being taken:—

(i) Large scale deployment of WLL network in rural areas. As per plan a total of 33 WLL BTS in Himachal Pradesh and 125 WLL BTS in Orissa are planned to be installed during 2005-06.

(ii) Relaxation of the outdoor cable norms to 5 Kms. Against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms. for Landline Exchanges.

(iii) BSNL is deploying its mobile network in all the highways, important towns, pilgrim centers and State highways in that order of priority,

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi

which gives incidental coverage to large parts of rural areas.

(iv) BSNL has been focusing on advance planning and timely procurement of equipment.

Statement

The Details of Work Carried out in Rural and Urban Areas of Himachal Pradesh and Orissa for the Development Expansion and Upgradation of Telecommunication Facilities During the Last Three Years

HIMACHAL PRADESH

I. Development

Sl. No.	Work Item		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	Direct Exchange Lines (DELs)(net)	Urban	29,665	44,313	-25,680
		Rural	25,830	9,212	71,518
2	OFC(RKMs)		1,116.75	247	648.72
3	VPT provided	Rural	205	2	-

II. Expansion

Sl.No.	Work Item		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	Expansion of L/L Switches	Urban	18,584	-	-
		Rural	49,122	9,784	8,908
2	Expansion of WLL Cap.	Urban	-	8,000	-
		Rural	-	-	-
3	Expansion of CMTS Cap.		12,000	34,522	50,748

III. Upgradation

Sl.No.	Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	SBM to RSU Conversion	44	95	49
2	C256 conversion to AN RAX	-	127	50

ORISSA

I. Development

Sl.No.	Work Item		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	Direct Exchange Lines (DELs)(net)	Urban	10,075	1,09,616	1,51,228
		Rural	51,320	29,805	30,712
2	OFC(RKMs)		1608.9	826.61	754.45
3	VPT provided	Rural	5,078	318	-

II. Expansion

Sl.No.	Work Item		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	Expansion of L/L Switches	Urban	42,904	32,680	9,856
		Rural	45,000	13,698	6,004
2	Expansion of WLL Cap.	Urban	3,000	-	-
		Rural	16,500	25,000	15,000
3	Expansion of CMTS Cap.		40,000	89,900	1,15,000

III. Upgradation

Sl.No.	Item	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	SBM to RSU Conversion	29	54	37
2	C256 conversion to AN RAX	-	411	148

New telephone exchanges in Himachal Pradesh and Orissa

†918. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone exchanges installed in Himachal Pradesh and Orissa during the last three years; district-wise and year-wise;

(b) the district-wise details of the telephone exchanges to be installed in above States during 2005-06 and 2006-07; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

†Original notice of question was received in Hindi.